

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NDJAME 01722 021411Z POSS DUPE
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 OPR-02 A-01 OC-06
CCO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 PER-01 IO-13 PC-01 AID-05 /107 W
-----130204 021500Z /72

O 021400Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEIDATE 6994
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 1722

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, CD
SUBJECT: MILITARY SITUATION: STATUS OF FORCES

REF: NDJAMEN 1696

1. AS NEAR AS WE CAN CONSTRUCT IT, MILITARY SITUATION
AS OF MAY 1 IF ROUGHLY AS FOLLOWS:

A. WESTERN SECTOR (KANEM AREA)

	SALAL/MOUSSORO	NDJAMENA	TOTAL
CHADIANS	400	600	1000
(ARMY & NOBADIC GUARD)			
FRENCH	600 PLUS	400	1000 PLUS

REBELS-- BULK OF REBEL FORCE 1,000 TO 1,500 REMAINS AT
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SALAL, WITH ADVANCE RPOBE ABOUT 60 KMS NORTH OF MOUSSORO
B. EASTERN SECTOR (OUADDAI; BILTINE)
CHADIANS 800
(ARMY& NOBIADIC GUARD)
FRENCH 150 (ARMORED SQUADRON AMBASSADOR DALLIER HAE
INFORMED ME IS MOVING BACK INTO ABECHÉ.)
REBELS-- REBEL COLUMN OF ABOUT 800 MEN HAS

TEKEN ARADA AND GUEREDA AND IS ADVANCING ON IRBIA.
C. CENTRAL SECTOR (BATHA/GUERA)
CHADIANS 700
(ARMY& NOBADIC GUARD)
FRENCH 200
REBELS-- DISPERSED SMALL BANDS OF UNKNOWN STRENGTH

2. IN BRINGING ME UP TO DATE UPON MY RETURN,
FRENCH AMBASSADOR GAVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL
DETAILS OF EARLER FIGHTING AROUND SLALA. HE SAID
REBEL ATTACK WAS EXTREMELY WELL COORDINATED AND
THE MOVEMENT SOUTH SHOWED A GOOD LOGISTICAL SET-
UP. FRENCH COUNTER ATTACK AT SALAL HAD BEEN MET
THE THREE WELL DUG IN CONCENTRIC LINES OF DEFENSE.
DESPITE THIS, FRENCH ARMORED CARS HAD PENETRATED
TO THE CENTER OF THE REBEL FORCES. HOWEVER,
WITHOUT ADEQUATE INFANTRY AND AIR SUPPORT, THEY
COULD NOT EXPLOIT THIS ADVANTAGE AND WERE FORCED TO
RETIRE. AMBASSADOR SAID CHADIAN INFANTRY INVOLVED
HAD NOT FOUGHT WELL, BUT CHADIAN ARMORED CAR
PERSONNEL AND MORTARMEN HAD PERFORMED EXCELLENTLY.
HE ADDED THAT SITUATION AROUND SALAL HAD BECOME
SO DIRE LAST WEEK THAT ALL FRENCH TROOPS HAD BEEN
WITHDRAWN FROM EASTERN CHAD TO BOLSTER FRENCH
PRESENCE IN WEST. HOWEVER, ENOUGH TROOPS WERE NOW
ON HAND AND FRENCH WOULD BE REINFORCING CHADIAN
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GARRISONS IN THE EAST EARLY THIS WEEK. BRADFORD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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